

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01

SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-07 IO-13 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 EPG-02 SIL-01

STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SS-15 /097 W

-----020937Z 033774 /16

P 020901Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5678

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 9178

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UNCTAD, EG

SUBJECT: FIRST UNCTAD PREPARATORY CONFERENCE ON COTTON

REF: STATE 119870

1. CONTACTS OVER PAST FEW DAYS WITH MFA AND MINTRADE OFFICIALS SUGGEST THAT GOE HAS YET TO FOCUS ON COTTON ISSUES LIKELY TO ARISE AT UNCTAD CONFERENCE, DESPITE IMPORTANCE OF COTTON TO EGYPTIAN ECONOMY. COMPOSITION OF DELEGATION HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED AND EMBOFFS WERE UNABLE TO ELICIT SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT ON QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL. GOE OFFICIALS WERE, HOWEVER, INTERESTED IN US POSITION ON CONFERENCE AND WERE PROVIDED LIMITED INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REFTEL PARA 3. FURTHER INTERNAL DISCUSSIONS ARE SCHEDULED IN GOE AT EARLY DATE, FOLLOWING WHICH EMBASSY WILL SOUND OUT APPROPRIATE SOURCES, PRIMARILY WITHIN MINTRADE.

2. GOE MINTRADE DEPT HEAD MANSOUR FAHMY NOTED THAT TEN AFRICAN AND ASIAN COTTON PRODUCERS HAD HELD "SYMPOSIUM" AT CAIRO IN LATE APRIL 1977 AS PRELUDE TO UNCTAD PREPARATORY CONFERENCE. HE INDICATED THAT DIVERSITY OF VIEWS AMONG PARTICIPANTS PRECLUDED FORMULATION OF AGREED POSITIONS. QUESTION OF
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BUFFER STOCKS WAS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH, BUT CONCLUSION OF GROUP APPARENTLY WAS THAT COMPLEXITY OF ISSUE IS SUCH THAT FURTHER STUDY WILL BE REQUIRED BEFORE WORKABLE ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE RECOMMENDED. (NOTE: EMBASSY HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN AWARE OF TEN-NATION MEETING, WHICH APPARENTLY WAS HELD AT TECHNICAL LEVEL TOTALLY WITHOUT PUBLIC NOTICE.)

3. COMMENT: WE SUSPECT THAT GOE MAY NOT BE IN HURRY TO ESTABLISH ITS POSITION ON COTTON POLICY QUESTIONS AT FORTHCOMING UNCTAD MEETING BECAUSE OF ITS UNIQUE STATUS AS MAJOR WORLD SUPPLIER OF EXTRA LONG STAPLE VARIETY OF PRODUCT. SOLIDARITY WITH OTHER G-77 COTTON PRODUCERS MAY EVENTUALLY BE FORTHCOMING FOR BASICALLY POLITICAL REASONS, BUT EGYPT TO SOME EXTENT CAN WRITE ITS OWN TICKET WITH RESPECT TO EXTRA LONG STAPLE EXPORTS, REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME OF UNCTAD PREPARATORY AND LATER MEETINGS.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COTTON, MEETING AGENDA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770699/aaaaditu.tel
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Litigation History:
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